

Applying to the AAAS Fellowship



Dr. Jacob M. Pasner July 27, 2020



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE



American Institute
of Physics

My full timeline

October 2018

Received nomination to give a Lightning Round Talk at Fermilab

October 26, 2018

Gave winning Lightning Round Talk

March 16-24, 2019

Advocated in Washington DC with US LHC Users Association

October 31, 2019

Successfully defended my dissertation

December 15, 2019

Submitted AIP Fellowship application

February 28, 2020

Selected as alternate for fellowship interview

March 10, 2020

Selected for finalist interview

April 15, 2020

Interviewed for AIP Fellowship

April 17, 2020

Informed that I had not been selected

July 15, 2020

Received a call to inform me that I had been accepted

Opportunities



symmetry
dimensions of particle physics



Opportunities



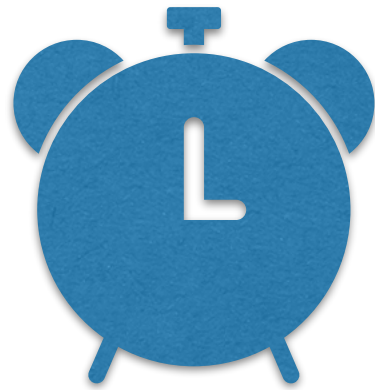
symmetry
dimensions of particle physics

Go outside!

 **Fermilab**



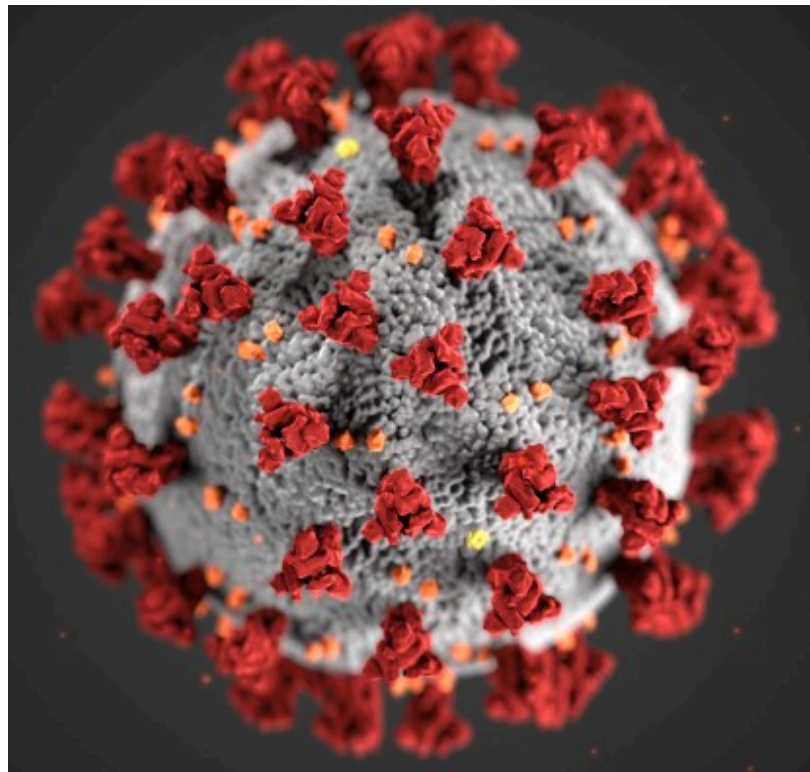
Pro Tip:
Don't Get Giardia



Obstacles

The AAAS Fellowship requires you to have completed your Degree to apply. This forced me to defend October 31st, the day before the AAAS Fellowship was due.

Huge Time Crunch!!



The arrival of the Coronavirus impacted the interview process for the AIP Fellowship. I missed out on a chance to be flown to DC to not only interview, but also to refresh contacts.

Flexibility is important!

My Great Mentors

Federal Relations
Director for NIU



Dr. Anna Quider

Past AAAS Fellows
Department Staff
UC Staff

Letter of Recommendation Writers



Dr. Joel Primack



Dr. Jason Nielsen



Emmanuel Garcia (Right)
- Staffer for Congressman
Jimmy Panetta (Left)

Bad mentor = Bad Application

Writing the application

• Resume

- Modified CV
- List of Publications
- Keep it simple
- Make it beautiful
- Should complement your letter of intent, not repeat it

• Letter of Intent

- Two pages
- Reason For applying
- Scientific Qualifications
- Public policy experience
- Leadership Experience
- Career Goals

Comments

- Make sure you have time for upwards of 4-5 revisions.
 - *I did 5*
- Give your mentors plenty of time to review your updates.
 - *I started writing 3 months early*
- Make sure to keep your vocabulary general for the educated layperson
- AAAS fellows are encouraged to help prospective students apply, so make sure to reach out



Finalist Interview

The ethics question is hard!

Good zoom etiquette

Have a good personal
answer for
"why you do science"

Remember your job will
be communications and
that you are applying to
learn, not to "give them
the answers"

My thoughts

The only way to make sense out of change is to plunge into it,
move with it, and join the dance

Alan Watts

They want know your story and your excitement to help

My farming and community organizing background made me an attractive candidate

Funding is difficult to find when you don't know what you want!

Special thanks to Femilab USLUA and the UCSC Physics Department and GSA

Its hard to get yourself out of the box!

Special thanks to Giordon Stark

Its hard to ask your department for help to follow your dreams!

Special thanks to Jason Nielsen, Mike Hance, Abe Seiden and Steven Ritz

Please Contact Me!

jakepasner@gmail.com

- About politics
- About funding
- About my life and my application
- About your life and your application
- About cool physics!
- About cool not-physics!
- Just gimme a shout!



Talk to you soon :D

And thanks
for listening!